

# BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

**REPORTING OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 5, 2020** 

### SUMMARY

There were 10 reports of visits in the past seven days (10/30 - 11/5), with 10 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at five sites.

Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries from 11/3 was partially obscured by cloud cover and showed approximately 45% coverage of low to high algal bloom potential, predominantly on the western half of the lake. No significant bloom potential was observed on the visible portions of either estuaries.

Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 11/2 showed scattered low bloom potential on Lake George and the main stem of the St. Johns River. Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to rapidly changing environmental conditions or satellite inconsistencies (i.e., wind, rain, temperature or stage).

On 11/2, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected samples at Kissimmee River - Near Camp Mack Ramp and Yalaha Canal - Lakeshore Drive. The Kissimmee River - Near Camp Mack Ramp sample had no dominant algal taxon and no detectable cyanotoxins. The Yalaha Canal - Lakeshore Drive sample also had no dominant algal taxon and a trace level (0.32 parts per billion) of total microcystin was detected.

On 11/3, DEP staff collected samples from Santa Rosa Sound - Direct Runoff Upstream of Laurel Drive, Lake Okeechobee - Upstream of the S77 Structure, and at the S308 Structure - Lakeside. The Santa Rosa Sound - Direct Runoff Upstream of Laurel Drive sample was dominated by Microcystis wesenbergii and no cyanotoxins were detected. The Lake Okeechobee - Upstream of the S77 Structure, and at the S308 Structure - Lakeside samples had no dominant algal taxa and had trace levels of total microcystins (0.41 ppb and 0.33 ppb, respectively).

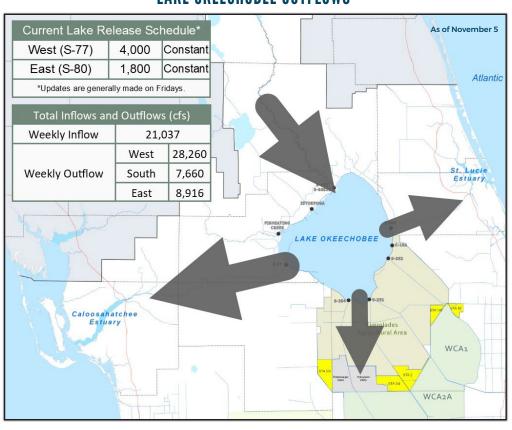
On 11/5, DEP staff collected samples at Lake Okeechobee - Upstream of the S77 Structure, and at the S308 Structure - Lakeside. These results are still pending.

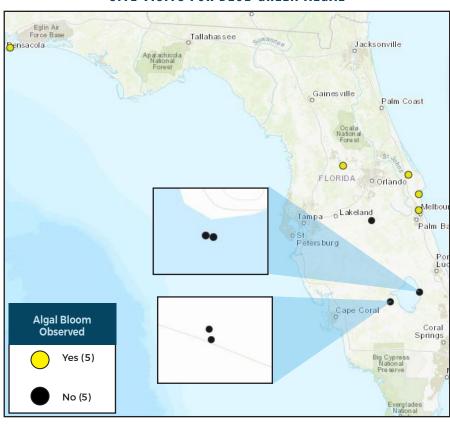
On 11/5, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) staff collected algal bloom identification samples only from Indian River - Parrish Park, Banana River - 520 Slick Boat Ramp, and Indian River - Eau Gallie Pier. Sample results are still pending.

This is a high-level summary of the sampling events for the reported week. For all field visit and analytical result details, please refer the complete algal bloom map with data table by clicking the "Field and Lab Details" Quick Link from the Algal Bloom Dashboard. Different types of blue-green algal bloom species can look different and have different impacts. However, regardless of species, many types of blue-green algae can produce toxins that can make you or your pets sick if swallowed or possibly cause skin and/or eye irritation due to contact. We advise to stay out of water where algae is visibly present as specks, mats or water is discolored pea-green, blue-green or brownish-red. Additionally, pets or livestock should not come into contact with the algal bloom-impacted water, or the algal bloom

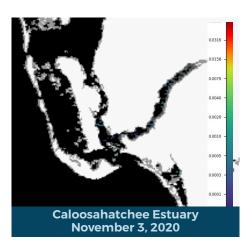
#### LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS

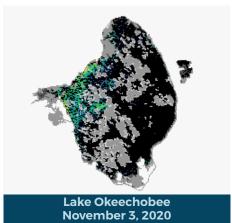
#### SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



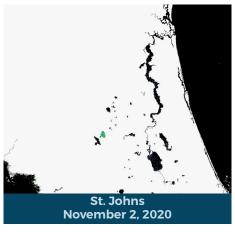


Satellite Imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud-cover









#### REPORTS FROM HOTLINE

October 16-22

#### REPORT PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES

#### **HUMAN ILLNESS**

Florida Poison Control Centers can be reached 24/7 at 800-222-1222 (DOH provides grant funding to the Florida Poison Control Centers)

#### **OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS**

### CONTACT DOH

(DOH county office)

FloridaHealth.gov/



#### **Observe stranded wildlife** or a fish kill Information about red tide

**SALTWATER BLOOM** 

and other saltwater algal blooms

## CONTACT FWC

800-636-0511 (fish kills) 888-404-3922 (wildlife Alert)

MyFWC.com/RedTide

#### REPORT ALGAL BLOOMS FRESHWATER BLOOM

- Observe an algal bloom in a lake or freshwater river
- Information about bluegreen algal blooms



855-305-3903 (to report freshwater blooms)

FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom

Learn more about Florida's Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response visit our Water Quality website to check the current status and to receive updates.